

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

May 6, 2013

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Important Dates

May 1-10	MAP Testing
May 15	Robert Crown Field Trip (\$10)
May 17	Transition Picnic (\$6)
May 23	Trish Quane Family Event
May 29	Completion Ceremony
May 30	Olympic Day
May 31	Last Day of School (full day)

Dear Families,

Don't forget to send in the permission slips and money for our upcoming field trips. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know if you are available to help with the transition picnic on May 17th. Also, be on the lookout for information coming home about the many end of year activities we have heading our way.

Below are the dates for MAP testing.

	Reading	Math
5K	5/9	5/6
5M	5/6	5/1
5P	5/8	5/7
5Y	5/6	5/3

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - This week we will be painting on the the final details onto our kiln-fired presidents. Look for photos on the artblog. We are beginning a drawing project where we will learn how to emphasis the focal point or center of interest in our artwork through leading lines and contrast. Also, for students attending the lock-in, we will be painting the 5th grade mural during the lock-in. Please have your student bring painting clothes or a smock.
[www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com)

Music - [Check out the website!](#) We are continuing our big Theme and Variations project this week. Students will learn to play the theme of the assignment on the recorder and then create their own variations by changing different musical aspects of the piece. Each student will have their own packet for this assignment. They will work on making one variation by themselves. I will make suggestions on this variation by Wednesday and then allow them to work with me on Friday at 11:30 to improve their assignment. They may also take the assignment home to make corrections and bring it back by Friday. More details about the whole assignment will be available on the music website this week.

Chorus - The Wolves game is Sunday March 17th! Details will be sent home this week about where we are meeting and at what time. If you can give a ride, please email akaria@op97.org. We will be singing "Don't Stop Believing" at the game.

Click here for the karaoke track:

[Don't Stop Believing Audio](#)

And here for the lyrics"

[Don't Stop Lyrics](#)

Spanish - Students have been working with the story *El Muchacho Pastor*. They are completing skits on the story and recording them. <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/>

Library - In other library news, we're continuing to read RJ Palacio's *Wonder* during library time. Take a look at the Wonder website for information about this amazing novel, <http://choosekind.tumblr.com/> Choose kind! For more on library happenings, please keep up with us on the library home page (<http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>).

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.

Reading/Literature

We will continue to focus on identify themes in literature. The students will determine the theme of different pieces of literature and use textual evidence to explain their answers. The students will also be evaluating the text structure of informational text and explaining which structure is most effective.

Language Arts

In May, each class will be reading one of William Shakespeare's classics with the end result being a performance complete with costumes, sets, makeup and music! The plays include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (5Y), *Hamlet* (5M), *Macbeth* (5P), and *Twelfth Night* (5K).

Math

We will continue to work with fractions this week. Our focus will be on fraction division and solving word problems involving fractions and mixed numbers. Just a reminder that students will be working out of an orange booklet rather than using the Everyday Math materials. There will be a short quiz on Friday covering the topics discussed during the week. We will have a unit test early next week. Students are now working on their Million Dollar projects. Projects are due May 22. We will have some class time to work on projects, but students should now be working on them at home as well. Project information is on the Math page of the 5th grade wiki.

Science

This week, we will learn about the major components of the digestive system and their function. Our final system of the human body will be the reproductive system. Next week students will learn about the male and female anatomy in class and will travel to the Robert Crown center on May 15. Boys and girls are separated during this field trip. If you have any questions or concerns about the curriculum, please contact Ms. Manuel or Ms. Kraft.

Social Studies

Since students studied the Civil War so extensively in 4th grade, it will not be covered in this year's social studies curriculum. Over the course of the next three weeks, we will be working on a unit titled *The Rise of Big Business & American Innovation*. Students will analyze how technological and scientific developments affected people's lives in the late 1800s. They will conduct a short research project on an influential entrepreneur and be able to explain how that person changed/affected the industries of America.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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